

Interwoven



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Welcome

to the first edition of Interwoven Magazine. We are so happy you're here.

We are grateful to all of you for taking the time to read this collaboration between us and so many other souls. Together, we can create anything we wish, and we believe it's important to be reminded of this fact.

In creating this magazine, we intend to build a community, to learn about the art of creating a sustainable life together as people, which has been forgotten in the past few thousand years. But we absolutely can, and will bring it back. We are choosing music and art as focal points for the magazine because we believe they serve as models for the beauty and wonder that we can create in collaboration with others. We are always building our creative work with people, both directly, and through inspiration and knowledge. Acknowledging this makes us aware that it is a kind of collective magic.

Welcome to a publication for the new paradigm.

Please feel free to join in our work and submit art and written words for next month. Send them, along with any questions, ideas, comments, classified ads, and resources you may have to interwovenmagazine@gmail.com.

Love,
Claire & Dave

Fire in Paradise

On Sunday, June 19th, while the Earth approached its closest annual distance to the sun, Wharton State Forest caught fire. The flames spread over 13,500 acres, torching forest all along the way. Sadly, large portions of the fire were inaccessible to firefighting vehicles, and firefighters took an indirect approach, fighting the fire with water where possible and set fire along its potential path--destroying fuel that could carry it through more forest.

The blaze began just as the 10th annual Beardfest was wrapping up in the same forest, at Paradise Lakes Campground. The three-day festival is named after the local band, Out of the Beardspace, and features all sorts of music, art, and workshops, with a focus on jam bands.



Photo by NoBody Photography, Tyler Doty

For three days, the forest was decorated with vibrant lights, tapestries, and people. The atmosphere was warm and welcoming, and those present were excited and festive, yet mindful and loving. The energy felt different from a typical music festival where many people are doing their best to get inebriated. Rather than an occasion to imbibe, the event was treated as the birth of a memory to be treasured.

The bands present played joyful music from a variety of genres. Some funk, electronic, and rock in particular caught my ears and brought me joy. It was a true celebration, and a momentous ten-year anniversary.

After the camping gear was packed away into all sorts of vehicles on Sunday, the campground became the main hub for local firefighters. By Tuesday, it was 95% contained. It was the largest fire in New Jersey since 2007.

I talked with Zach LoPresti, a guitarist in Out of the Beardspace and an organizer for Beardfest about the festival, the fire, his experience growing the Beardfest community, and social change. I have so much gratitude for Zach, his thoughtful responses, and his energy and efforts that have shaped Beardfest into the delightful event it is today. Here is the interview in its entirety.

How did Beardfest begin?

Zach: Beardfest was born out of backyard party-shows that Out of the Beardspace and our close friends put on in my backyard in Waterford, NJ. We wanted a place to perform our music that was easily accessible for our friends (mostly still in high-school and under 21) and where we could headline and play whatever we'd like. Over time, the crowds and enthusiasm for these shows grew to a point where we couldn't keep them from our parents any more. Eventually, we decided to host a single day festival as a going away party because we decided to move to Virginia as a band and group of friends to live off grid and pursue primitive skills like farming, cooking over a fire, building simple structures, and foraging. This event was named Beardfest and originally was thrown with no intention of doing it again!

What have you learned through building the community of Beardfest over the past ten years?

Zach: I've learned an incredible amount. So much of it feels intangible and hard to

describe. I'd say the biggest and most prominent lesson revolves around trust and planning. Beardfest continues to grow and improve as we connect with more people who have energy, ideas, and skills to contribute. When we trust that an individual has good intentions and the means to execute their ideas, great things happen. The community grows in ways that we could never plan for or predict. On the flip side of that, there is a very strong feeling of protection for Beardfest as a community, event, and business that I have...so sometimes it can be hard to let go of things and give people that trust. Overall, being able to give that trust and let inspired folks come in and execute their ideas has absolutely made the community stronger and more diverse, far beyond what it would be otherwise.

How did it feel being at the 10th anniversary, and after it was over?

Zach: Being at Beardfest ALWAYS feels like a dream. It feels like I'm always there, have always been there, and will always be there, while simultaneously having a sense of impermanence. This time around was no exception. As a promoter and performer it feels incredibly long, exhausting and taxing...it also feels like it's gone in the blink of an eye and energizes me with passion and ideas for months to come. I couldn't help but feel a strong parental feeling as we celebrated the 10th anniversary, especially considering I now have two children who were present for the weekend, in addition to many students who I've seen grow over the years at the festival. When it was over, it felt like it had passed too quickly!

What happened when you first became aware of the fire? What was it like being there?

Zach: When I first became aware of the fire I was on the festival grounds with my family, the core Beardfest team, and a cleanup crew. I received a call from the land-owner telling me that we needed to evacuate because the forest was on fire. We were able to see the smoke over the course of the hours leading to that phone call but had assumed it was a controlled forest fire and nothing for us to worry about. I was obviously very alarmed and started driving around and telling everyone still there that we needed to get out quickly. It wasn't immediately clear just how quickly we needed to vacate the campground, but that changed about 10 minutes after the call when Scott Miller (Paradise Lakes owner) came speeding onto the grounds in his truck declaring that we needed to get leave all personal objects behind and get out

immediately. We all scrambled to get into the available vehicles and get off site ASAP.

To answer the question of what it was like being there: As I stated earlier, being at Beardfest is very surreal and dreamlike. There was a sudden shift from “reveling in the afterglow of an incredible three days while cleaning up the grounds” to “being in danger of getting caught in a massive forest fire and/or potentially losing the beautiful Paradise Lakes and irreplaceable personal items”. This felt like the dream took a wrong turn, like it just wasn’t right. While I felt very alert and ready to do whatever needed to be done in the name of safety, I could hardly believe it was happening.

How have you felt about the fire since then?

Zach: The way I’ve felt about the fire since then is that we were extremely lucky that it was kept at bay, and even luckier that it didn’t occur just a day before while hosting 2,000+ people. It felt like a message from Mother Nature, reminding us that some things are out of our control and we need to be as prepared as possible to deal with “acts of god” such as this. You can be sure that our evacuation plan will be receiving a lot of thought and attention before the next Beardfest!

How do you feel about stewardship of the lands that we use to gather on?

Regarding the stewardship of Paradise Lakes, I feel that the grounds are in good hands. Every year the Beardfest team is onsite for about a week and a half between set-up, event, and breakdown. During our time on the grounds, we do our best to commune with and integrate our infrastructure as respectfully and responsibly as we can. We love Paradise Lakes and try to pass those feelings along to everyone involved in the event, from staff to audience. Beyond that, the campground is managed by Scott Miller and his daughter Alexis Geletka. They care for the land and do their part to improve it, while not leaving a large human footprint and respecting the plant and wildlife that reside there.

Do you have any long-term goals for Out of the Beardspace, Beardfest, or personally with music?

Zach: I have lots of long-term goals pertaining to the festival, the band, and my personal music career.

Regarding Beardfest, as I mentioned earlier a huge aspect of our growth has been very organic and community-based. With that in mind, I'd love for us to just keep experimenting and collaborating with great minds to see what can develop over the years. I'd like for us to see what's possible with events outside of our usual three day summer festival. I'd like to keep using our platform to attract & work with our heroes - including musicians, educators, artists, and thinkers. I'd like for us to one day own the lands we use so that we can develop the ideal infrastructure and potentially host many more events of various sizes and focuses. Ultimately I'd like to keep laying the groundwork for events and community that will last through my lifetime and continue to the next generation.



Out of the Beardspace and Snacktime, photo by NoBody Photography, Tyler Doty

In regards to Out of the Beardspace: realistically my goals for the band feel similar to what my goals are for the festival. We are a collective and therefore work best when we find and go with the natural flow down the center of each member's desires. To be frank, I think we are an excellent band with limitless potential to go as far as we want. If it were up to me, we would more actively pursue the route of a Recording and Touring act. But, it's not just up to me and these desires are not shared equally by the rest of the band. So I will be happy as long as we continue to work together when it feels good, make the best music we can, and keep finding new and interesting ways to be creative together.

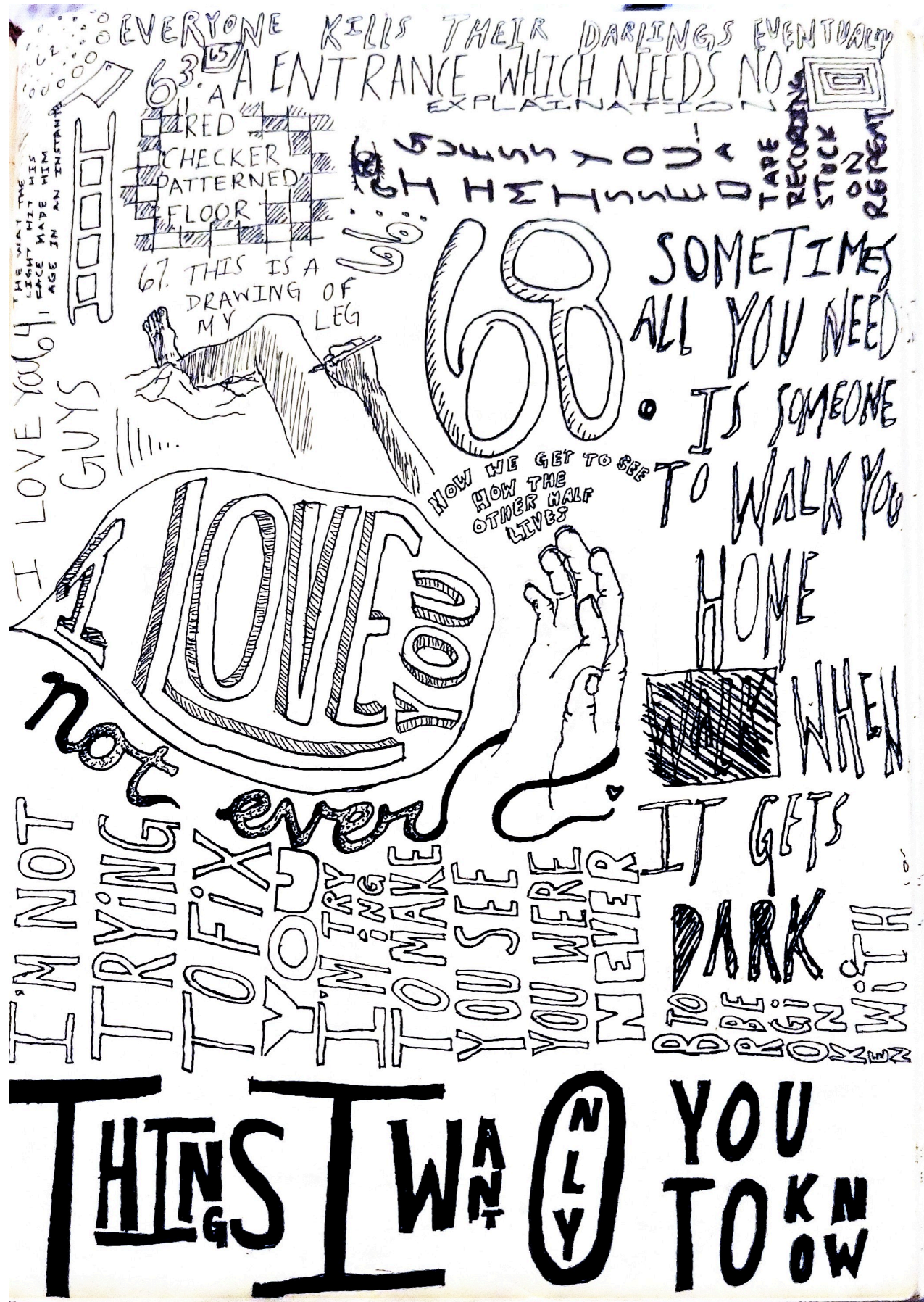
In regards to my personal music career; I have high hopes and big dreams. I would like to tour the world playing original music. I would like to write music for video games, movies, and shows. I would like to act as Producer and studio musician for passionate, creative artists who are looking to develop their music in the unique ways that only I could. I would like to keep developing my skills as an instrumentalist and earn the opportunity to play with my musical heroes. I've been blessed to have a fruitful and diverse musical career so far. My next big step which I am actively beginning to pursue this month will be seriously developing myself as a solo artist, as opposed to just working within the context of original bands. I also have a strong passion for teaching, and although it is not something I feel like I can give myself to entirely, I want to keep figuring out how to mold it into my life in a way that works and feels good. To that end, I will be starting a new group lesson program this fall. Classes will be held in Clementon, New Jersey at the new Loudo Musical Instruments factory and headquarters.

How do you see the relationship between music and social change?

Zach: Music has always had an enormous effect on social change. I believe it to be the most pervasive and influential art form on a daily basis. Music tugs on our emotions, stimulates our memories, changes our perspective, and helps develop new language. What's most interesting to me is that I think it often works its magic discreetly. I doubt that many people think about just how impacted they are by the music behind visual media. In a world that's becoming more and more experienced through the interface of a screen, music will continue to play a huge role in how humans go about daily life.

Are there social changes you would like to see, locally and on a larger scale, that you desire to pursue?

Zach: I'd like to see a social shift in the direction of self-care and self fulfillment. Especially in the era of the Internet, it's so easy to look outside for validation and direction. If used correctly, the extensive knowledge base at our fingertips can help people mold themselves into exactly who they want to be... finding comfort in their own skin, and developing their talents and passions to find personal satisfaction and best empower those around them. I would like to see social change towards acknowledgment and exploration of nuance. The polarization and pushing of labels and extreme judgments on each other is tearing humanity apart. I feel like we are in a very interesting time where things are simultaneously at the greatest risk of explosion/collapse, while also on the cusp of a more enlightened and connected humanity than ever. Maybe it always feels this way? I would love to see more and more folks learn to look inward and develop their minds and overall self control; realizing that life should be a fully engaged participatory sport, not something that "happens to us". I want members of society to try hard, to dig deep, to love fully, to dream big and achieve whatever it is that will find them contentment.



Time: 1811.XXIX.Midyear.MMXII

Title: Power

Inspiration: Claire

B.B.B.B.

So use much power, it makes me feel sour
It just seems the system just devours,
I'm cowering with a flower
Praying for the rain to wash away their reign
They feign interest in mother nature,
They're vain, I could see it in their veins,
All they care about is digging up her core veins
Shifting her tectonic plates with technology,
No apology
Just a eulogy
Cutting the trees as they cut our umbilical cord to our mother.



I believe in Sankofa
Teaching my son the ways of
old as we sun gaze
Watching all the animals freely
graze
As we eat the banana nice
cream with the glaze
Raising minds as we raise our
plants
Passing our genes through new
pants
Panting and we plant plantains
Bananas brought my nana
Drawing on the canvas with
grape juice
Mango nectar dripping down
our necks
Papaya uplifting the Maya
As we all get back to, Gaia

Solidarity, Forever

Over the last two and a half years, many people have experienced deep darkness in their lives and moved through it. Collectively, we have endured so much. And thankfully, many of us have come out of this time stronger than ever. The story resembles that of the phoenix, rising from the ashes of his old self to start anew. This May, the Looms released *Ashes of the Old*, an album that details this journey from destruction to rebirth. The Looms are an eccentric and lovably scrappy quartet of musicians and songwriters making waves in the growing folk punk scene. Having shared the stage on multiple occasions with the likes of Harley Poe and Apes Of The State, the band has come out swingin' with their debut album *Ashes Of The Old*. Released in May, the record takes a bold approach to the modern struggles of the everyday working folk.

We'll get back to the album in a bit. First, let's meet the band. Formed in early 2018, the crew consists of longtime friends Jimmy Tolbert (vocals, banjo, guitar, harmonica), Corey Siegel (vocals, bass), Nick Bongiorno (guitar, mandolin, vocals), and Anthony Bongiorno (washboard, vocals.) Having each participated in an array of musical projects over the years with sounds ranging from groove metal to pop punk and just about everything in between, the group now comes together to bring forth a roaring, yet playful sound that will fill your heart and get your feet moving all at once. Their message of love and solidarity comes shouting through the speakers with every tune, and this record illustrates that from start to finish.

The quartet of friends and brothers from the South Jersey area has bonded for the better part of their adult lives as lovers of music. They share music that they all love, but they each bring to the table their own flavor, their own style, that has become special to them. "We started out as a punk band with electric instruments and drum sets. I started listening to folk punk, with bands such as Days n' Daze, AJJ, and Mischief Brew. After one acoustic practice session, I suggested we become a folk punk band and the idea stuck," Nick explained.

The energy at a Looms show is infectious and undeniable. They know what everyone is there to see, and they are there to deliver it: a break from the monotony, a break from life outside. You enter that environment, and everything is full of life. By the second song, there is not a still foot in the crowd, and the room has come alive with motion. Whether they are playing for a crowd of 10 or 100, they are on stage to connect with their audience and ensure that everyone has an extraordinary and memorable

experience. The band often takes a moment between songs to engage with the audience, encouraging community, friendship, and solidarity. "...We want people to know that they're not alone. You know, obviously, there's a lot of fucked up shit that goes on at any given time in this world and we want people to have a place when they're coming to see us and just spending time with us in general, and I think that's a general ideal of the bigger folk punk community too, giving people a safe place to hang out and listen to some music and not be judged and shit," Corey said.



The band's name was inspired by the same spirit, although somewhat accidentally. Corey explained, "I think I was texting with Anthony, and...I'm pretty sure I typed "loom" instead of "lol" by accident, and so then, just joking around, I was like 'Fuck it, we should call ourselves that.' And I thought it was funny...and the more we thought about it we were like, 'I know the origin is really dumb, but at the same time...it is a cool name, you know?' We really like the fact that a loom is used for weaving...We thought that was really fitting for us because we wanted to be something that could weave people together, you know, bring people together for...a common cause." Corey elaborated that

their cause is “generally speaking, anarchy.”

The album was named “in reference to Pete Seeger's “Solidarity Forever.” The line ‘we will bring to birth a new world from the ashes of the old’ was poetic in making changes for not only ourselves, but our community,” Anthony said. *Ashes of the Old* was recorded from 2020 to 2022, in an arduous process. Nick recalls, “The recording process was very cursed. We had a lot of things outside of our reach happen that delayed the recording. But thankfully, working with Matthew Lemming made it a lot easier. He was very accommodating and he personally made me feel like we could try something different when it comes to adding to the music.”

The album opens with “Locust,” a song that starts off very low-key, modest, and heartfelt, beginning with Corey alone, playing guitar. The rest of the band joins in for an instrumental finale, foreshadowing the tone of the rest of the album.

Additionally, Corey told us “I really like Locust II as well, that song just really means a lot to me...When I wrote that song...it was also in the middle of the pandemic, which didn’t help this, but I felt kind of stagnant, like I wasn’t really doing much, going through the same thing everyday. So writing that song really helped, seeing that you can grow from everyday experiences like that. Doing little things to just keep my sanity while I was basically stuck inside for the first handful of months of the pandemic, it was kind of therapeutic for me.”

“Marxsplaining” embodies the feelings that come with seeing the problem, understanding the solution, and wanting everyone else to understand it too. It perfectly blends anxiety with optimism for quite an emotional experience.

“One Cop, Two Cop” is an outcry against police brutality and the less visible travesty of slave labor in the prison-industrial complex. Contrasting its darker subject matter with a catchy and up-beat energy, the song leaves you ready to fight, not cower, in the face of adversity.

Jimmy said, “My favorite song has to be ‘Beyond the Shelves.’ Many of the lyrics were taken from a free-verse poem I had written following an abrupt end to a vivid and surreal dream. The song taps into not only my subconscious mind's eye, but also explores the personal and jarring experience of being a human being in our late-capitalist, postmodern paradigm. Seeking true meaning can be difficult in an existence where much of our culture, lifestyle, and habits are predetermined for us, and mostly come from overwhelmingly corrupt & nihilistic roots. What is left for us in such a world? The innermost and truest enlightenment: that love, compassion, and the unending drive of the

human spirit toward ever-greater freedom remains.”

Within most underground punk movements over the years, social change has been a key ingredient. Be it a call to justice or a critique of the classist, sexist, and racist institutions of the modern world, punk has been a voice to many who wish to see some serious improvements. The Looms, having been inspired by punk music from a young age, have entered the scene intending to share in that voice. In regard to their formation, Jimmy noted, “In the wake of rising authoritarianism and alienation, we thought that bringing a message of comradery, self-determination, and Liberty might inspire others to live their lives in a more focused and self-determined way.”

“I think that [music and social change] go very hand in hand,” Corey explained, “...People who feel the same way know that there are other people out there who feel that way, and they realize that they have numbers, they have power, if they are able to come together.” Jimmy added, “Music cannot be social change, but it can spark the flame in your heart that drives you to enact social change. As Pat the Bunny said, ‘A punk rock song won't ever change the world, but I can tell you about a couple that changed me.’”

August 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4 The Looms Leftover Salmon Rancocas Woods Open Mic Night	5 Elephant Talk	6 Elephant Talk Bury Your Brother
7 Mount Laurel Farmers Market	8	9	10	11 Monthly Drumming Circle	12 Dance Gavin Dance Emo Karaoke Night	13 Apes of the State, The Looms, Doom Scroll
14	15	16	17	18 Philadelphia Folk Fest Gettysburg Bluegrass Fest 3rd Thursday Food Trucks Rancocas Woods Open Mic Night	19 Philadelphia Folk Festival Gettysburg Bluegrass Festival	20 Philadelphia Folk Festival Gettysburg Bluegrass Festival
21 Grassstains Festival Philadelphia Folk Festival Gettysburg Bluegrass Festival	22	23	24	25	26 Wishy Washy & Aesaph Album Release Show	27
28 Inner Child Ecstatic Dance	29	30	31			

- August 4th The Looms at Ukie Club in Philadelphia, PA, 3:00 PM
Rancocas Woods Open Mic Night, Mount Laurel, NJ, 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Leftover Salmon at Ardmore Music Hall, 7:15 PM, \$26+
- August 5th Elephant Talk at the Watering Hole in Mays Landing, NJ 5:30 PM-12:00 AM, \$10, August 6th 12:00 PM - 12:00 AM, \$10
- August 7th Mount Laurel Farmers Market, 118 Creek Road, Mt. Laurel, NJ, every Sunday, 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM
- August 11th Monthly Drumming Circle, The Center Life in Balance, 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM, registration required at TheCenterLifeInBalance@gmail.com
- August 12th Dance Gavin Dance at the Theatre of the Living Arts, Philadelphia, PA, 7:30 PM
Emo Karaoke Night at Dobbs on South, Philadelphia, PA, 8:00 PM
- August 13th Apes of the State, The Looms, Doom Scroll at The Saint, Asbury Park, NJ
- August 18th Philadelphia Folk Festival, Old Pool Farm in Upper Salford Township, PA, through August 22nd, day passes from \$70, many ticket options/prices
83rd Gettysburg Bluegrass Festival at Granite Hill Camping Resort, Gettysburg, PA, through August 21st, day passes from \$40, many ticket options/prices
3rd Thursday Food Trucks, Main Street, Medford, NJ, 5:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Rancocas Woods Open Mic Night, Mount Laurel, NJ, 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
- August 21st Grassstains Festival, 4935 Old York Road, Philadelphia, PA, 12:00 PM - 6:00 PM
- August 26th Wishy Washy & Aesaph's Fabled Realms Album Release Show, The Fire in Philadelphia, PA, 7:00 PM - 12:00 AM, \$10
- August 28th Inner Child Ecstatic Dance, 52 E Taunton Ave, Berlin, NJ, 1:00 PM - 6:00 PM

September 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Rancocas Woods Open Mic Night	2 Delaware Valley Bluegrass Festival	3 Delaware Valley Bluegrass Festival
4 Delaware Valley Bluegrass Festival Mount Laurel Farmers Market	5	6	7	8 Anahata's Purpose Festival	9 Anahata's Purpose Festival	10 Anahata's Purpose Festival
11 Anahata's Purpose Festival Mount Laurel Farmers Market	12 Mom Jeans	13	14	15 3rd Thursday Food Trucks Rancocas Woods Open Mic Night	16 NJ Horror Con & Film Festival	17 NJ Horror Con & Film Festival Tall Trees Festival
18 NJ Horror Con & Film Festival Mount Laurel Farmers Market	19	20	21	22 Architects	23 Bonobo	24
25 La Dispute Mount Laurel Farmers Market	26	27	28	29	30	

- September 1st Rancocas Woods Open Mic Night, Mount Laurel, NJ, 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
- September 2nd 50th Annual Delaware Valley Bluegrass Festival, through September 4th, tickets for the weekend, day passes from \$60/\$30 for adults, many ticket options/prices
- September 4th Mount Laurel Farmers Market, 118 Creek Road, Mt. Laurel, NJ, every Sunday, 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM
- September 8th Anahata's Purpose Festival, Spring City, PA, through September 11th, day passes from \$77, many ticket options/prices
- September 12th Mom Jeans at the Theatre of the Living Arts, Philadelphia, PA, 6:00 PM
- September 15th 3rd Thursday Food Trucks on Main Street in Medford, NJ 5:00 - 9:00 PM
Rancocas Woods Open Mic Night, Mount Laurel, NJ, 7:00 - 9:00 PM
- September 16th NJ Horror Con & Film Festival, Showboat Hotel & Casino, Atlantic City, NJ, through September 18th,
- September 17th Tall Trees Music & Arts Festival, Collegeville, PA, 12:30 PM
- September 22nd Architects at the Fillmore, Philadelphia, PA
- September 23rd Bonobo at Franklin Music Hall, Philadelphia, PA, 8:00 PM, \$39.50
- September 25th La Dispute at the Theatre of the Living Arts, Philadelphia, PA, 7:00 PM

Community Resources

Animal Welfare Association

509 Centennial Blvd, Voorhees, NJ
08043
(856) 424-2288
awanj.org

Cultivate Church First Fruits Food Pantry

2303 East Evesham Road
Voorhees, NJ 08043
(856) 429-6633
2nd & 4th Thursday of the Month
(July 14th & 28th)

Mary Jane Home Enrichment Center

1622 Ridge Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19130
(215) 684-2847
Serves hot meals Mon-Sun, gives
out groceries Mon-Fri

Prince of Peace Community Food Pantry

61 Route 70 East
Marlton, NJ 08053
(856) 983-0607
Mon 5-7 PM, Thurs 9-11 AM

Psychedelic Peer Support Line

call or text 62-FIRESIDE / (623)
473-7433

South Philly Punks with Lunch

sppunkswithlunch@gmail.com
[instagram.com/](https://www.instagram.com/south.philly.punkswithlunch/)
[south.philly.punkswithlunch](https://www.south.philly.punkswithlunch.com/)

St. Vincent de Paul Society Food Pantry

157 West White Horse Pike
Berlin, NJ 08009
(856) 767-7391
Tues & Thurs 11 AM-3 PM

Woodford Cedar Run Wildlife Refuge

(856) 983-3329
4 Sawmill Road, Medford, NJ
08055
cedarrun.org

A Note on Classified Ads:

For this, our first issue, we are funding ourselves completely. We are using our own money to bring you these magazines, and we are happy to do so. In order to grow as a publication, we will be making space for classified ads in our issues. This means we will be able to print more copies, and invest more of our time and energy into the magazine. The magazine will always be free, and we love giving it away to our mailing list via email and to people in person at various events! We have printed 100 copies of this magazine, and will continue to grow our distribution as we get more support.

We would love for you to buy ad space in the magazine. Ads will begin at \$25 for a quarter of a page, \$50 for a half, up to \$75 for a whole page. We are open to any ideas for ads and will be so delighted to make this work sustainable financially for us. Thank you so much.

You burned me.
Left a brand on my skin.
It throbbed for days,
Missing layers of protection.

You burned me inside too.
I feel flames licking,
Climbing up my throat
To my lips,
Charring the tender pink
You once kissed.

You know how to start a fire,
But you can't end it,
And you fan it with the slightest glance.
You burned me,
And now, I'm a wildfire.

~Claire